

The Centaurian Sentinel™

Dedicated to J. Michael Straczynski's television series *Babylon 5*.



Data File 30 • February 1997

BABYLON 5 EDITION

WALTER KOENIG, UNGLOVED

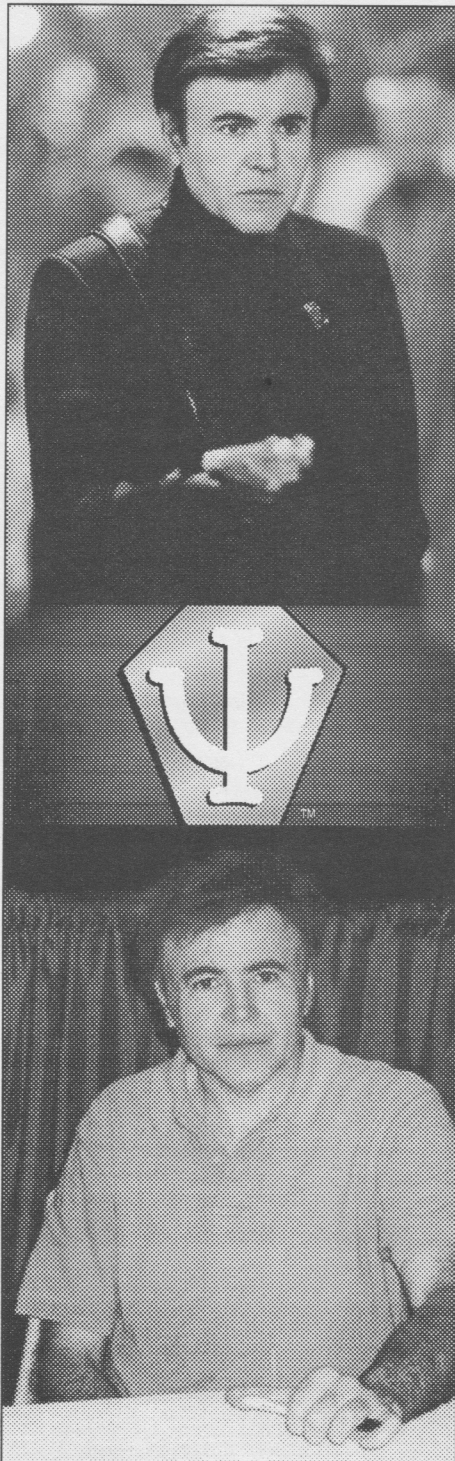
Conducted at Chicago Comicon, Rosemont Convention Center, IL, June 23, 1996, by Michael Zmuda.

For the past 30 years Walter Koenig's life has essentially been related to the original *Star Trek* character Ensign Pavel Andreievich Chekov, the Enterprise's navigator/jr. science officer. When Walter had joined the ensemble cast he never expected that it would come close to the entity that *Star Trek* is today. "I had no idea that we would go forward over the course of 30 years. When the show was canceled in '69, and [Gene] Roddenberry called each one of us and said, 'It's been nice working with you. Hope we can do it again,' the consensus was that it was just a nice way of saying good-bye. No one sensed any prophetic meaning to it. We thought, in our lives, we would continue without *Star Trek*."

Walter feels that he has had a rare opportunity to work with both [J. Michael] Straczynski and Roddenberry, which he feels is an extremely rewarding experience. "I didn't know Gene very well. The only similarity that I know of is they both cast me . . . gave me a big break. I think that Joe Straczynski has a very strong ethical code and philosophy that he lives by, and I think Gene professed that same philosophy. I think both men are/were very creative and incentive. I think Joe Straczynski, in particular, is a man of extraordinary imagination, and [has] the skill to put it down on paper. They both are/were resolute and determined to make their dream come true. Joe struggled for years to get *BABYLON 5* on the air, and as you know Gene went through myriad problems before the network finally agreed to put *Star Trek* on."

Walter's ties with people involved in *BABYLON 5* go back to the '60s. He originally met Harlan Ellison during the filming of an episode of *The Alfred Hitchcock* show that was adapted from Harlan's book *Memos From Purgatory*. Walter was cast as a gang leader, who was based on Harlan's experiences from when he was in a childhood gang. Later in life he became friends with J. Michael Straczynski.

Two months before Walter was to play a part on *BABYLON 5*, which Joe had written with him in mind, he had a heart attack. Walter was originally going to have the part of Knight 1 in the episode "And the Sky Full of Stars", Judson Scott was to get the role of Knight 2. Joe told him not to worry, he would write another part for him, which turned out to be the part of Bester. "The first character he wrote was a little more flam-



Walter Koenig
Psi Corp's P12 Psi Cop Alfred Bester

boyant. I remember reading the script once or twice, but that was three years ago and it is a little hard for me to recall. I do know that I appeared in Michael O'Hare's [Sinclair's] mind as a canny, carnival barker. That was, as I said, a little more of a flamboyant character. I think he got that idea from a play that he saw me in, a play called "Boys in the Autumn", a play where I played Tom Sawyer as an ex-vaudevillian. I did some vaudevillian stuff in that play, and I think that's where he got part of the idea for that – not the idea for the story – but for my character."

How are fans reacting to his new role as Psi Cop Alfred Bester, one that is so diametrically opposed to Chekov? "Very, very positively, the people I've come up with. Of course I don't hear the negative comments. A friend of mine downloads what is on the internet and sends it to me. He just sends me everything, he doesn't take out the bad copy, and everything seems to be favorable. People seem to have totally accepted my playing this character [Bester], and the Chekov thing doesn't seem to interfere with their enjoyment of this at all."

Walter has had experiences with writing comic books and is currently working on projects that are incorporating his *Raver* character. "I have a two-parter prequel to the *Raver* story which was supposed to have been printed by a company called Millennium. They have dragged their heels for so long that I have abandoned hope that it would ever happen. If this motion picture deal turns out there is a company that is interested in converting *Raver* into a feature film and CD-ROM. I've given them a film treatment that includes the prequel, includes how it all began – it could conceivably become part of the feature film story."

His passion in his spare time is collecting comic book related memorabilia – trading cards, figures, comic books, and "Little-Big" books. He was surprised when he became part of the obsession. "It was a big kick the first time when all that happened – the cards, the little figurines, the buttons – whatever it was, because I always collected those things on my own. And then to find myself part of it, it was a kick! After a while I think everything loses its first time appeal, but it's still nice to see."

If there is an opportunity for Walter to be involved in the *BABYLON 5* movies and the possible spin-off would he jump at the chance to participate? His answer was, "Sure, that would be great!"

Michael Zmuda

CENTAURIAN SENTINEL CONVENTION LIST

DISCLAIMER: This listing is provided only as a convenience and does not constitute an endorsement or any guarantee (either of guests, dates, *The Centaurian Sentinel* or costs) by myself or the provider of the list. Contact the convention organizers for current information, guest lists and to confirm the event will be held. As a courtesy, all requests by mail should include a SASE for a response; for phone calls please remember to take into account time zones so that you call at a reasonable hour for them. Please send information on additional conventions, updated information to: wandrew@aol.com or to W Andrew York; POB 2307; Universal City TX 78148

Canceled: Feb 22 STARCON '97; Garden State Race Track; CHERRY HILL NJ. Info: 609-272-9648.

B5 Guest: BRUCE BOXLEITNER

Feb 22-23 CINEMAHOLICS WINTERCON I; SALT LAKE CITY UT. Info: 910 E 3300 S #A; Salt Lake City UT 84106; 801-463-1555; cinema@axxis.com

B5 Guest: JULIE CAITLIN BROWN

Feb 23 CREATION; Civic Plaza; PHOENIX AZ. Info: 411 N Central #300; Glendale CA 91203; 818-409-0960.

B5 Guest: JASON CARTER

Feb 28-Mar 2 AGAMEMCON; Holiday Inn; COSTA MESA CA. Info: 24161-H Hollyoak; Laguna Hills CA 92656; 714-643-8352; orrock@ix.netcom.com

B5 Guests: JASON CARTER; WAYNE ALEXANDER; DAVID EAGLE; DAVID GERROLD; JIM LOCKETT; GEORGE JOHNSEN

Mar 1-2 VULKON; Sheraton Cleveland Center; CLEVELAND OH. Info: 12237 SW 50th; Cooper City FL 33330; joemotes@aol.com

B5 Guest: PAT TALLMAN

Mar 7-9 LUNACON; Rye Town Hilton, RYE BROOK NY. Info: POB 3566; New York NY 10008; lunacon@lunacon.org;

www.lunacon.org/lunacon/lunacon.html

B5 Guest: MICHAEL O'HARE

Mar 7-9 SWILCON '97; Swarthmore College; SWARTHMORE PA. Info: will@scs.swarthmore.edu;

www.scs.swarthmore.edu/~will/swilcon.

B5 Guest: ED WASSER

Mar 8 WOLF 359: THE NIGHTWATCH; Connaught Rooms; LONDON UK. Info: 141 Waarden Road; Canvey Island Essex SS8 9BE ENGLAND.

B5 Guest: JEFF CONAWAY

Mar 8-9 CREATION; Univ of New Hampshire; NH. Info: 411 N Central #300; Glendale CA 91203; 818-409-0960.

B5 Guest: WALTER KOENIG

Mar 14-16 VULKON [SF] Sheraton Hotel Towson; BALTIMORE MD. Info: 12237 SW 50th; Cooper City FL 33330; joemotes@aol.com.

B5 Guest: PAT TALLMAN

Mar 15-16 MEGACON; Orange County Convention Center; ORLANDO FL. Info: <http://www.insv.com/megacon>;

megacon97@aol.com; 407-599-0905.

B5 Guest: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI

Mar 21-23 CREATION; Pasadena Center; PASADENA CA. Info: 411 N Central #300; Glendale CA 91203; 818-409-0960.

B5 Guests: WALTER KOENIG

Mar 21-23 VULKON; Hilton; ST PETERSBURG FL. Info: 12237 SW 50th; Cooper City FL 33330; joemotes@aol.com

B5 Guest: PAT TALLMAN

Mar 21-23 EARTHSTATION 97; EDMONTON ALB. Info: sfcon@oanet.com; www.tgx.com/sfcon

B5 Guest: MIRA FURLAN

Mar 21-23 FOR THE KIDS 2; Sheraton Inn; CHARLOTTESVILLE VA. Info: POB 123; Quince VA 22965; rws@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu

B5 Guest: MICHAEL O'HARE

Apr 4-6 I-CON; STONY BROOK NY. Info: POB 550; Stony Brook NY 11790; 516-632-6045; info@iconsf.org

B5 Guests: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI; MICHAEL O'HARE; HARLAN ELLISON

Apr 11-13 VULKON; Howard Johnsons/Castlegate; ATLANTA GA. Info: 12237 SW 50th; Cooper City FL 33330; joemotes@aol.com.

B5 Guest: PAT TALLMAN

May 13-23 SCI-FI SEA CRUISE; depart Key West FL. Info: POB 936135; Margate FL 33093; 561-637-4430; whocruiser@aol.com.

B5 Guest: MIRA FURLAN

May 31-Jun 1 SCI-FI DREAMIN'; Lycoming College; WILLIAMSPORT PA. Info: 1738 East Third #197; Williamsport PA 17701; mutchler@csrlink.net

B5 Guest: JASON CARTER

May 30-Jun 1 THUNDERCON 7; Clarion Hotel; OKLAHOMA CITY OK. Info: POB 892545; Oklahoma City OK 73189; 405-692-7035; mdmoery@icon.net

B5 Guest: RICHARD BIGGS

Jul 3-6 WESTERCON 50; Downtown Sheraton; SEATTLE WA. Info: POB 283; Seattle WA 98111.

B5 Guest: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI

Jul 5-6 JUMP GATE '97; Hotel Victor; DUBLIN IRELAND. Info: 18 Watermill Road; Raheny Dublin 5 IRELAND; jumpgate@indigo.ie

B5 Guests: MIRA FURLAN; STEPHEN FURST; WALTER KOENIG

Jul 11-14 THE ALLIANCE; Norbreck Castle Hotel; BLACKPOOL UK. Info: 141 Warden Road; Canvey Island, Essex SS8 9BE UK; <http://www.dynamite.co.uk/wolf359/>

B5 Guests: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI; WALTER KOENIG; RICHARD BIGGS; MIRA FURLAN; BILL MUMMY; PETER JURASIK; STEPHEN FURST; PATRICIA TALLMAN; JOSH COX; JASON CARTER; ED WASSER; JULIE CAITLIN BROWN



Jul 18-20 HORIZON II; Mercure Hotel; BRISBANE AUS. Info: 776 Cavendish Rd; Holland Park 4121 Qld AUSTRALIA; 07-3349-2229; www.eastwind.com.au/eh2/index.html

B5 Guest: MICHAEL O'HARE

Jul 18-20 TORONTO TREK XI; TORONTO ONT. Info: www.interlog.com/~kcozens/trek

B5 Guest: CLAUDIA CHRISTIAN

Aug 1-3 STELLAR SUMMER MEDIA & COMICS EXPO; Harvey Hotel; ADDISON TX. Info: 3352 Broadway #470; Garland TX 75043; [phoenix@CyberRamp.net](http://www.cyber-ramp.net/~phoenix); <http://www.cyber-ramp.net/~phoenix>

B5 Guest: MIRA FURLAN

Aug 8-10 REBELCON '97; Holiday Inn; TAUNTON UK. Info: 10 Rankin Street; Worcester MA 01605; 508-587-1223; <http://www.cs.umb.edu/~jwentze/mary/index.html>; rebelcon@aol.com

B5 Guest: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI

Aug 21-24 B5-THE WRAP PARTY; Radisson Edwardian, LONDON UK. Info: POB 505; Reading Berks RG1 7QZ ENGLAND; wrap@sid-hen.demon.co.uk

B5 Guests: J MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI; HARLAN ELLISON

Aug 29-Sept 1 STARQUEST '97; Red Lion Hotel; SAN JOSE CA. Info: POB 20066; Castro Valley CA 94546; chairman@StarQuest.org; <http://www.StarQuest.org>

B5 Guests: STEPHEN FURST; others tba

1998

Aug 21-24 THE WRAP PARTY; The Radisson Edwardian Heathrow; LONDON UK. Info: <http://www.bilpin.co.uk/TheWrapParty>; b5committee@bilpin.co.uk

B5 Guests: J M STRACZYNSKI; HARLAN ELLISON



The Centaurian Sentinel

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THE SOUNDS OF BABYLON 5

Music is a major aspect of BABYLON 5, setting the atmosphere for each episode. Christopher Franke is responsible for composing the dramatic music for the series. The German born composer, formerly of the progressive group Tangerine Dream, keeps busy in his Hollywood studio scoring, in addition to BABYLON 5, numerous film and television soundtracks. Franke has compiled two soundtrack albums of reorchestrated scores from BABYLON 5 episodes. They are as follows.

Babylon 5 Soundtrack (SI 8502-2) – composed and performed by Christopher Franke with the Berlin Symphonic Film Orchestra. (available on CD and cassette).

Chrysalis (18:22)
Mind War (6:14)
Parliament of Dreams (18:04)
The Geometry of Shadows (15:14)

Messages From Earth – composed and performed by Christopher Franke with the Berlin Symphonic Film Orchestra (available on CD only).

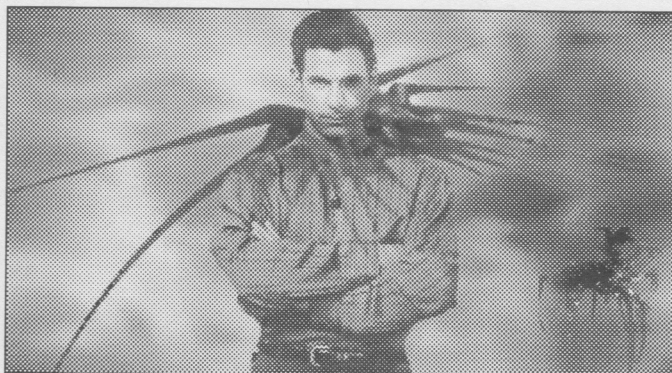
Main Title First Season,
extended (3:16)
Message From Earth (10:05)
Main Title Second Season (1:30)
Z'ha'dum (12:19)
Main Title Third Season (1:31)
Severed Dreams (15:37)
Main Title Fourth Season (1:29)
Voices of Authority (11:26)

The first soundtrack was originally released as a limited numbered edition (SI 8402-2) with-out "The Geometry of Shadows" piece. The following order information is from Sonic Images' Web site (<http://sonicimages.com>). CD's are priced at \$13.99 each, cassettes are priced at \$9.98 each (CA residents add 8.25% sales tax). Shipping: \$4.00 for the first CD or Cass, \$2.00 for each additional CD or cassette in the US, Canada, and Mexico. \$6.00 for the first CD or cassette, \$2.00 for each additional CD or cassette in all other parts of the world. Send a check or money order to: Sonic Images, P.O. Box 691626, West Hollywood, CA 90069 US. To order with your credit card call 1-213-650-4400 or 1-800-847-6642. To receive the free Christopher Frank Newsletter send a request to the above address.

It goes without saying that BABYLON 5 has many multi-talented people working on the series, many of them musically gifted. J. Michael Straczynski had composed the two songs that were sung in the episode "Walkabout". This past October JMS discussed online how he felt about the finished product.

"It's not widely known – I guess mainly because I haven't ever mentioned it much – but from time to time I've written songs. Mainly the

lyrics; I know how the music should sound, but I'm incapable of reading music . . . I think it's the same mental glitch that hits me when I try to do certain kinds of math. 'X is a numerical



imaging by Scott Vela

value.' 'No, X is a letter, 7 is a numerical value.' I can't ever seem to make the one equal the other in my head. Similarly, a black note on a piece of paper isn't the music . . . anyway, it's a glitch.

"So when I write songs, and I have a specific melody I'm hearing in my head, I'm invariably placed in the humiliating position (since I can't play a musical instrument) of humming it, or somehow trying to suggest it to the music-person. Suffice to say it looks really goofy and stupid.

"Anyway . . . despite this, I do sometimes write songs, and like to keep my hand in, as they say. I did two songs for an ABC-TV prime-time *Real Ghostbusters* special, did a few songs that have been recorded by small groups (you've never heard of any of them, trust me), another song that, much to my chagrin, is apparently still being used in church songbooks (and that's all I will ever say about that) . . . and when I decided to do a show with a singer for B5, I wrote a couple of songs for that one, with Chris Franke providing the music.

"They're bluesy, Billie Holliday kinds of songs, updated slightly. I'm actually very pleased with how they came out (Erica Gimpel, one of the cast members from *Fame*, plays the part and sings the songs). Several folks around here want either or both songs to come out on the next B5 album, but I'm loathe to do so, on the theory that the soundtracks work better in the style we've already used, all instrumental.

"[There've even been some inquiries from music people who've heard the songs about releasing them commercially, but that would mean adding about 30 seconds to each song to make them airplay compatible, and I'm not sure I want to take on the extra hassle just now.]"

Rumors have it that these songs may appear sometime on a single shaped like a starfury.

Bill Mumy is a prolific musician, involved with two bands. His band Barnes and Barnes is responsible for the award-winning video novelty "Fish Heads". Mumy also performs with his rock band, The Jenerators, at clubs in the Los Angeles area. In addition he has created scores

for childrens' shows and has performed at conventions. Mumy and his bands have several albums recorded, some available from Rhino Records. To get on a mailing list to receive The Jenerator's schedule contact: The Jenerators, P.O. Box 4606, West Hills, CA 91307.

Claudia Christian has recently completed a dance music CD titled *Taboo*. The two tracks included are titled "Taboo" and "Partners in the Sublime", which are supposedly "extremely explicit." Christian has performed at conventions, where she has also made her CD available for sale. Copies can be ordered for \$15.00. For \$20.00 an autographed photo of Christian will be included with your order (specify a black and white portrait shot or a color photo of her as Ivanova). Add \$2.50 for postage and handling. Contact: Claudia Christian, Zard

Productions, Inc., 8033 Sunset Blvd., #140, Los Angeles, CA 90046.

Thinking Of Things

*I'm thinking of thinking of
Calling her right after my
Afternoon nap.*

*I'm thinking of thinking of
Sending her flowers
Right after Bonnie gets back.*

*Too many fishes
Left in the sea
So many fishes but
No one for me.*

*I'm thinking of thinking of
Hooking a love
Soon after supper is done.*

Sonic Images

Who can forget that haunting melody that G'Kar sang in the episode "Parliament of Dreams". Aside from Andreas Katsulas singing a couple of diddies every now and then as G'Kar he has also mesmerized the audience at a convention in Blackpool, England last June with an impressive acappella version of "On Broadway".

"The JCB" is Julie Caitlin Brown's band. Julie, who plays guitar, is a singer and songwriter, backed by Mike Peters on guitar and Gary Perlberg on harmonica. Julie has performed live at conventions and is currently working on her first CD.

Jeff Conaway is a seasoned rock and roller, he has appeared in both the Broadway and film versions of the '50s musical *Grease* as greaser Kenickie doing "Greased Lightnin'".

And of course we couldn't forget to mention Peter Jurasik and Stephen Furst belting out Centauri opera as Londo and Vir on an episode of BABYLON 5. At Babcom '95 Peter also shared the stage with Claudia and sang Centauri opera together.

I, for one, certainly hope for an encore performance! ☺

Michael Zmuda

THE OFFICIAL B5 FAN CLUB

As a BABYLON 5 fan what would be a better position to have than a job that is located in the same building that the series is filmed in? The job does exist, and Jim Lockett has that kind of luck, to work next to the cast and crew of B5 as the organizer of the Official Babylon 5 Fan Club.

How does one get such an awesome responsibility? Jim has been friends with Harlan Ellison for about ten years, he explains how it happened. "Harlan called me. Joe [Straczynski] asked Harlan for a list of people who would meet the requirements of not only running a small business, but also dealing with the fans and editing a newsletter. He was very cryptic about it and said, 'Someone will approach you.'"

Any interested B5 fan would have jumped at the opportunity to be director of the club, but Jim wasn't a major B5 fan when he took the job. He did know JMS for a couple of years and had seen the pilot. "I think that was part of the draw - I wasn't a fan, so I could approach this with an outside appreciation. I sat down, and in a course of a week and a half I watched everything. I watched six episodes a day."

He is also responsible for editing the club's quarterly newsletter. Jim and Elizabeth Rae are responsible for getting the newsletter out to over 6,000 international members.

Jim showed us some really neat items that possibly will be available through fan club offerings in the future. We can't say anything yet, other than they're real cool!

But for now the B5 Fan Club is featuring a line of three exclusive t-shirts. All shirts include

the club's logo on the front and a selection of quotes on the back, as follows:

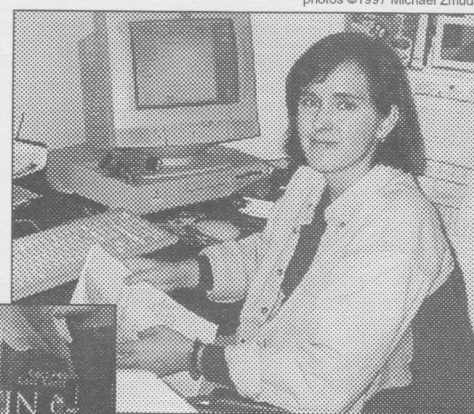
"We Have Always Been Here" (blue ink on a white shirt)

"We Stand Between the Darkness and the Light" (black ink on a grey shirt)

"No Boom Today. Boom Tomorrow. There's Always a Boom Tomorrow." (white ink on a black shirt)

The shirts are available in L and XL at \$16.95, and XXL at \$18.95. Fan club members in good standing receive \$2.00 off for each shirt. US orders add \$5.00 for shipping and handling for the first shirt, and then \$1.00 for each additional shirt. Canadian residents must add 8.5% sales tax. California orders must add \$7.00 plus \$2.00 for each additional shirt. Foreign orders must add \$10.00.

In addition the fan club poster is available at \$10.00 (member price \$9.00) which includes shipping and handling. The poster is sent rolled



Jim Lockett and Elizabeth Rae are hard at work trying to keep up with the response from fans interested in the Official Babylon 5 Fan Club.



in a mailing tube.

Until the Emporium Web page is up and running all orders must be mailed to the fan club address.

To join the fan club send \$12.95 in the US, \$14.95 in Canada, \$19.95 for foreign orders (in US funds, check or money order, made payable to: Babylonian Productions/Fan Club) to: The Official Babylon 5 Fan Club, P.O. Box 856, North Hollywood, CA 91603. Members receive a sub-

scription to *The Universe Today*, cast photo, mini-poster, button, sticker, certificate, and membership card.

Visit the fan club's Web site at <http://www.thestation.com>

Michael Zmuda

JEFF CONAWAY FAN CLUB

Hello B-Fivers! If there are any Zack Allan/Jeff Conaway fans who are interested in joining a fan club, please email me at CeSpaceMuz@aol.com. Jeff is definitely agreeable to the idea if enough people want to join. The cost would be minimal, just enough to cover postage and printing, probably \$10. We just need members!

The introductory package would probably include a picture or pictures of Jeff, a newsletter including an interview with Jeff and comments by Jeff, convention dates where he will be appearing, biographical info, and a list of TV and movies he has done like *Taxi* and *Grease*. The newsletter would continue quarterly and would be open to fan letters, art work, poetry, convention reports, etc. plus Jeff's comments and input.

If you know someone interested who does not have email, they can write me at:

The Jeff Conaway Fan Club
8330 Silvan Wind Lane
Houston, TX 77040-1412

Come on fans, let's get this going, it will be fun! I look forward to hearing from you other B5/Jeff Conaway fans.

Ce ;>)

The Narn War

When goaded beyond endurance, when scorned and belittled too far,
The Narn declared war on Centauri and started to fight for the stars.
Hard they fought, for they, - G'Quon bless them - had learned through despair to be strong:
Into the maelstrom they hurtled - into the struggle headlong.

No help did they get from the others, their brothers and sisters in space,
Though they pleaded their cause was a just one and presented much proof for their case.
They fought on alone 'til they foundered, 'til Centauri ships slaughtered their own
And bombed their world back to the stone age and took from them harbor and home:

And only a few escaped slaughter, and only a few ships remain,
And who will remember the proud race whose power so suddenly waned?
As the refugees run from their masters, looking for places to hide
While Homeworld is taken and burning - oh think of the many who died!

All this was a plan by the dark ones who feared that the Narns had the key
From their record of struggles in years past and the weapon of telepathy.
So the Narns were tricked in declaring a war they could never win
And yet from the dark plan came wisdom and the answer once hidden within.

One Narn is aware of the answer and willing to do all he must.
He is greater than ever he had been since the vision he had from the dust.
For G'Kar knows that some must lose freedom in order that none be enslaved
And some must be lost altogether, so the rest may be finally saved.

poem by Donna Edsall

BABYLON 5 EPISODES

Severed Dreams (#310)

Ambassador Londo Mollari waiting to be cleared through Customs, and starts to complain about the line and the inefficient Narns on security – quite loudly – for all to hear. He presents his identicard to the Narn at the gate who seems to have a “problem” getting clearance for him. He pulls Londo aside, clearance may take a couple of hours, which does not please Londo one bit. “Madness,” he complains, “This never would have happened if the Earthers hadn’t started fighting with one another.”

Meanwhile, General William Hague’s ship, the breakaway Alexander, is under attack by Earth Alliance fighters. Major Ed Ryan decides there is little choice, and gives the Alexander an order to fire on the attacking vessel, the Clarkstown, which is a destroyed. He asks his second in command, Bill Trainor, if he ever met the Commander. With the response “no”, Ryan says he did – he had a wife, three kids, and a cat named Max. He painfully says, “The trouble with this war is we know everyone we kill.” Repairs are needed for the Alexander. The only place they can go – Babylon 5. . . .

. . . Which creates a crisis. John Sheridan informs his staff that they are five hours away from a crisis . . . the Alexander is arriving for repair, and it is being hunted down. He instructs Michael Garibaldi to install a cut-off switch to kill the signal when it arrives, except for a private channel. Yes, Hague is arriving “and hell is riding in with him.”

A Minbari Ranger who had been six months behind enemy lines has been attacked. Dr. Stephen Franklin is attending him, and says he must be moved to the Medlab or he’ll die. Uncertain, Franklin and Delenn do not know who they can trust. Just then G’Kar arrives, and says that he does know. Delenn asks, “Can you carry him very far?” And as G’Kar lifts the Ranger up he replies defiantly, “As far as you like.”

In the Zocalo an ISN broadcast informs all that Xavier Montoya, head of the Mars provisional government, is defying martial law. President Morgan Clark’s government is considering all options.

The Alexander arrives, Garibaldi kills the signal. Sheridan addresses the Observation Dome personnel. This is the wanted ship, the Alexander, and they are aware of the orders concerning the Alexander and her crew. But they need assistance, and Sheridan takes full responsibility for his action. If anyone has a problem, they are welcome to leave. Few do. Sheridan gets to the heart of the matter, when he says, “We have just been thrust into the middle of extraordinary events. So, we must approach things calmly and rationally. Those are not the enemy out there, we wear the same uniform, and have sworn to uphold the Constitution. They are as loyal to Earth as you are. We will render humanitarian aid to them. Because, as much as our humanity got us into this, our humanity is the only thing that’s going to get us out.”

The injured Minbari Ranger in Medlab tells a horrified Delenn that the Shadows are on the move, and have made alliances with many of the Non-Aligned worlds, who are afraid they would be conquered by the Centauri if they did not ally themselves with a greater force. They feel that the Shadows guarantee that they will not be defeated. In the process they go to war against each other. Delenn asks if the Grey Council has been informed and is told their reply is that the problems of others are not of their concern.

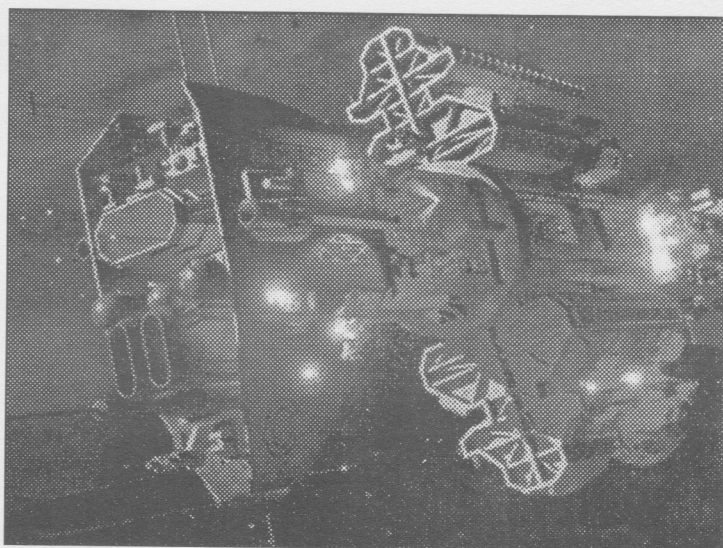
Ryan arrives with distressing news – their ally Hague was killed coming back from a meeting on Orion 7. Ambushed, he was caught amidship by the Clarkstown. This comes as a big blow to them all. Since, Ryan has tried to carry on the best he can, but his crew is stunned.

Sheridan wonders what’s the latest news on the coup. Ryan replies that a few senators have escaped Earthdome, and shock troops are everywhere – London, Paris, New York, Moscow, New Delhi. Susan Ivanova asks how the folks are dealing with it, and Ryan replies that most have welcomed it, it’s peaceful, and crime is down to nothing. Sheridan remarks, “Yeah, the peace of the gun.”

Garibaldi asks about the ISN. Ryan says they can’t tell the truth or they will be shut down.

But there is still one chance, Mars is defying martial law. If they ally with other breakaway worlds, they could be charged with treason – it would be easier to keep quiet. They then learn the sobering news . . . Earth has begun bombing Mars.

Delenn takes her leave to see the Grey Council, leaving Lennier in charge. She will support any action he takes. He warns her that they may



The Churchill is severely damaged before it kamikazes into the Roanoke.

not receive her well, they are not what they once were. Delenn defiantly replies, “They will see me whether they like it or not! Someone has to make them see reality.” She thanks G’Kar for his help, saying, “You are not quite the person as when I came here four years ago.”

Ivanova informs Sheridan that another breakaway ship, the destroyer Churchill, commanded by Captain Sandra Hirose, has arrived. “Good,” he says, “Ryan has been waiting for her arrival.”

An ISN reporter says the number of casualties on Mars after the Earthforce attack is unknown. Clark announces that the attacks will continue until Mars accedes to martial law. Another reporter breaks in, telling the truth that Orion 7 and Proxima 3 have broken away in protest, and have declared independence. He goes on to say that troops can be seen surrounding the building. Then, suddenly, all contact is lost.

Hirose is aboard, confirming the news about Orion 7, and reports that they intercepted attack orders given to the Agrippa and the Roanoke – the target . . . Babylon 5. They are hooking up with heavy cruisers, and their instructions are to seize Babylon 5, arrest and detain the command staff, and put the station under the control of Clark and the Nightwatch. Ryan says major powers won’t intervene. Hirose wanted them to know. They have six hours. Ryan offers to pull away, maybe draw them away. Sheridan says, “No thank you Major, this is where we make our stand, this is where we do it.”

With the crisis rapidly approaching, Sheridan considers the options. They hoped they could avoid a direct confrontation, but the train is heading right for them, and there is not a lot of time. Only two options, fight or surrender. “If it was just us, hey, you pays the money and you takes ya chances. But it’s not just us, it’s a quarter million people here on B5, and billions more counting on us.” He promised Delenn that he would draw a line against the darkness, no matter what the cost. Now, they know the cost and there is too much at stake to walk away. Franklin speculates that if they surrender, they’ll court martial them, if they lose, they’ll kill them. Sheridan replies that the choice is theirs. Ivanova, Garibaldi, Franklin, and then Sheridan make the only decision they can – to fight!

Sheridan goes into battle readiness, orders Franklin to clear the Medlab, puts two starfury squadrons on battle rotation starting “30 seconds ago”, asks for full security, and says G’Kar has guaranteed their loyalty by keeping every promise he made to them.

Delenn is stopped by a Minbari guard and is told that the Grey Council will not speak to her. She defiantly answers, “Then they will listen to me. I served the council for 16 cycles, I was the chosen of Dukhat to replace him. I held him when he died, his blood is on my hands, his spirit in my eyes, his word on my lips. You will step aside in his name and mine, or in Valen’s name I will tear this ship apart with my bare hands until I find them.” He stands aside.

Forcefully, she addresses the Grey Council. “For three years I warned you this day was coming. The 100 year prophesy was to be fulfilled. But pride, and presumption are yours. When the fulfillment of prophesy comes to pass, you scorn it – disbelieving. We stand between the candle and the

continued on page 6

star, between the darkness and the light. You say the words but, your hearts are empty. You stand for nothing but your own petty interests. If the council has lost it's way, if it has broken its covenant with Valen," she picks up the staff, and bolts course through it as she bends it, "the council should be broken," she breaks it and it crashes to the floor, "as was prophesied." She asserts, "We must stand with the others, now, before it is too late. Between the worker and religious castes we control two thirds of our forces. To you I say, listen to your conscience, break the council and come with me. Our time of isolation is over, move together, or not at all." And as she leaves, the two thirds leave with her.

Sheridan makes a last call to his father, David, to tell him that he loves him and his mother. His father advises him to do what he has to do, the decisions are tough, but he knows he'll make the right ones. His advice is to never start a fight, but always finish one. An emotional look comes to Sheridan's eyes.

The battle for Babylon 5 begins. As the fighter squadrons scramble, Sheridan uses Draal's holographic system and puts it online so that everyone on the station can see him. He announces, "I cannot allow Babylon 5 to be taken by Earth Alliance forces, for Clark has acted in violation of the Constitution by dissolving the Senate, declaring martial law, and causing the deaths of hundreds of innocent people on Mars. Orion 7 and Proxima 3 have broken away, and he says we are joining them. Babylon 5 will be an independent state until Clark is removed from office. After the current crisis, anyone is free to leave for Earth. Stay in your quarters until this is over." As he goes off-line he looks at Ivanova, takes a deep breath, and comments, "Well, we're in it now." He turns down Draal's offer to help.

Ivanova remarks that one of them should be out there, for the forces will be going against all their training. She wants to go, Sheridan balks, but, she is right, and reluctantly, he agrees. They exchange a "last look" as she leaves.

The Alexander and Churchill are in battle readiness. The jumpgate signal goes off, and through it comes the Agrippa. Its captain, Dexter Smith, sends a message to B5. "Surrender command, If not, we will initiate deadly force. This is your only warning."

Sheridan replies, "You are executing an illegal order in defiance of the Constitution. We have been forced to declare independence to ensure the safety of Babylon 5. We don't want a fight, but will defend ourselves if attacked. Don't do this! Can't you see?"

The enemy starfury is on an attack vector. He instructs the forces, "We won't start the fight, but by God, we'll finish it."

The attack begins as the Alexander launches starfurys. Sheridan orders the blast doors closed. The enemy attacks! Fierce fighting ensues. There is a direct hit on the Alexander. Trainor asks Ryan how close does he want to get? Without hesitation, Ryan states, "Right down their throats!"

A breaching pod attaches itself to the hull of Babylon 5 at Brown 95. Garibaldi leads a squad to defend the station from the inside. As it blasts through the hull a heartbreaking battle ensues, and the Narns take great casualties, acting courageously.

Three enemy starfurys lock onto the station, one takes a hit and crashes near the observation Dome. The flames are extinguished and Sheridan escapes with only a minor injury to his forehead.

The attacking ship, the Roanoke, is burning. Sheridan offers them safe passage, but it is too late, they burn up.

The Churchill takes a great hit, and Ryan tells Hirose to hit the life pods. But it is too late. The Churchill plows in to the Roanoke. The Alexander and Babylon 5 fires on the Agrippa, destroying it.

Ivanova's starfury takes a hit and is ordered by Sheridan to eject. She does, just in time.

Fierce hand-to-hand combat is taking place at the breached area on the station, Sheridan orders to send more troops to help with the fighting.

Finally, a lull in the fighting ensues. Lt. David Corwin reports that the hull integrity is down 20 percent. It is a good thing that the fighting stopped when it did since they wouldn't have been able to take much more.

But . . . a jumpgate forms and another Earth Alliance ship comes through with more ships. Captain Drake orders B5 to surrender.

All seems lost. Sheridan, dejected, becomes more so when he is told that four jumpgates are forming right on top of them.

Miraculously, it is Delenn with four Minbari warships. She forcefully

states to the Earth Force ship, "Babylon 5 is under our protection. Withdraw, or be destroyed."

"Negative," Drake replies, "We have authority here."

"Do not force us to engage your ship," Delenn warns, "Why not, only one human Captain has ever survived battle with a Minbari ship. He is behind me - you are in front of me. If you value your lives, be somewhere else!"

And they withdraw. Sheridan orders all ships to return to base.

Below, the casualties litter the deck after the terrible combat. An injured Garibaldi is lowered gently to the floor by Zack Allen. Ryan asks Sheridan how many fighters did he lose? He replies that 30 percent have been destroyed or disabled. Ryan comments that he took on many of Hirose's pilots, and offers them to Sheridan, who accepts them proudly. Sheridan is notified of Delenn's arrival. Ryan says you should be proud of your people. Sheridan replies that he is, but not for why they had to do it. He tells Ryan that he is always welcome on B5. Sheridan leaves without his Earth Force jacket, he says he cannot wear it without a clear conscience, only when the whole thing is over will he put it back on.

Garibaldi informs Sheridan that they are shipping people out, mostly Nightwatch members.

Delenn arrives, and Sheridan takes her aside. He tells her that he doesn't know how to thank her, and doesn't know the cost to her, but that seeing her face at that moment was the single finest moment in his life. Meaningfully, she replies, "It seems that this is the only home we have left. How could I abandon, as you say, 'my partner'." He tenderly kisses her hand.

Franklin arrives with Ivanova. She has a few bruises, and a bump on her head, but otherwise is alright. She tells Sheridan, "I just thought there's something you'd like to see."

They enter a packed Zocalo. First, one person applauds, and as the applause builds the noise rings off the walls. Sheridan gets a huge ovation from all there. He is warmed by it, and indeed, it is well-deserved.

Written by J. Michael Straczynski, produced by John Copeland, directed by David J. Eagle, edited by Suzanne Sternlight, with John C. Flinn III as Director of Photography. Starring: Kim Miyori - Captain Sandra Hirose, Rance Howard - David Sheridan, Phil Morris - Bill Trainor, Bruce McGill - Major Ed Ryan, James Parkes - Draken, Jonathan Chapman - Religious Minbari, Joshua Cox - Lt. Corwin, Maggie Egan ISN Reporter #1, Matt Gottlieb - ISN Reporter #2. 

Addenda: In the script Garibaldi was written to have a leg injury from the fight on B5. Jerry Doyle actually broke his arm in two places shooting the battle scene when he tripped over an actor. As he stands with one hand in his pocket and one hand on a cane you can almost see him holding back the pain.

Rance Howard, the actor who played David Sheridan, is the real-life father of actor/director Ron Howard. Ron and Bill Mummy have been friends since childhood, which is when they both began acting.

summary by **Connie Colvin**

Ceremonies of Light and Dark (#311)

Since Babylon 5 has succeeded from Earth the majority of the Nightwatch members on Babylon 5 have been rounded up and sent home. Some humans have left the station on their own, expecting the worst. Many are upset that the communication system has been shut down. Since the system was installed by Earth Central it is feared that they would be able to override the system, erase passwords, and lock out the station once the channel is reopened. Sheridan is concerned that they would be able to shut down the defense grid and life support. Garibaldi lets him know that the access codes are locked away to prevent it from happening.

Sheridan remarks that as long as they are on their own he can't justify wearing an Earth Alliance uniform. "My hypocrisy only goes so far." He plans to make rounds to assure everyone on the station that they are in control of the situation.

Delenn is speaking to a group of Minbari, conveying Sheridan's thanks for their assistance in the recent battle. "When you return to your ship tell your captains that history will remember them with reverence."

Lennier asks Delenn if fleet captain Lennan may tour the station. She approves the visit and asks him what he thinks of all that has happened. He replies that prophecy said one day they would reunite with the other half of their soul, and warned of the the war with the ancient enemy. Delenn remarks, "Prophecy is a poor guide to the future. Not all prophecies are good ones, there is darkness and fire still ahead of us – there is no guarantee that any of us will survive it."

A sniper takes aim at Sheridan as he is walking through the Zocalo. The is sniper is pulled back by a man with a scar across his eye. "I told you to wait," he orders, "You take him down he's a martyr. 500 men will stand up where he fell."

Marcus Cole returns to the station and meets with Delenn. She decides to celebrate the Nafak'cha – the Minbari rebirth ceremony. Marcus feels that it is not the right time for the event.

As Sheridan gives a speech in memory of those lost in battle a line of coffins drift off into space, flanked by starfuries.

Lord Refa meets with Londo. Londo complains to Refa that Centauri seems to be at war with everyone close to their border, only an idiot would fight a war on twelve fronts. He criticizes Refa's recent alliance with Morden, and fears that Morden and his associates will turn against Centauri Prime. Refa tells Londo that he is turning away one of the greatest powers – one that he will use to get himself to the throne. Londo asks Refa to abandon them and warns him that his loyalty to his people should be greater than his ambition.

He goes on to tell Refa that he has placed in his drink the first part of a poison, which will destroy his cardiovascular system when combined with the second part. This was done to guarantee Refa's cooperation. He orders Refa to encourage Emperor Cartagia to bolster the lines of defense around Centauri Prime and to cut off relations with Morden.

Garibaldi, Sheridan, and Ivanova install new passwords into the Earth Alliance Communication System.

Delenn discusses the rebirth ceremony with Sheridan. He feels that she should not invite Londo. She disagrees, explaining that pain must be born into new possibilities and must be put behind.

The Nightwatch on the station secretly meet. The Minbari are in the way of bringing martial law to Babylon 5. They decide that Delenn will be the main target since she was responsible for bringing the Minbari warships to defend the station. She must be taken out, but it must look like it was Sheridan who did it.

Delenn meets Marcus in Downbelow. She is surprised that he is not preparing for the rebirth ceremony since it was part of his Ranger training on Minbar. For some reason Marcus seems to fear the event.

Garibaldi finishes resetting the passwords. He restarts the system, but when the computer comes back on it has the voice and disposition on a cankerous man. This must be a remnant of when they had tried to install an artificial intelligence in the computer.

Delenn invites Londo to the ceremony. She tells him that he must tell somebody a secret that he has never told anyone before, and that he must give away something which is of great value to him. He refuses the invitation, complaining that he is already dealing with his past on his own terms.

When Delenn approaches G'Kar he tries to get out of attending the event, stating that he has already been reborn.

Marcus is still reluctant to attend. He tells Delenn that he has nothing left to give up. He has lost his brother and his love to the Shadows. Delenn convinces him that he has to give up what he is clinging to – the memories of sacrifice, which are dragging him down. She tells him to let go of the pain, "Forgive yourself for being alive."

Lennan arrives on the station. As Delenn walks towards him shots fire out as Nightwatch members appear from the shadows.

Garibaldi is having trouble getting the wise-cracking personality out of the communications system.

Delenn and Lennan are held at gunpoint. Word is intentionally sent out about their situation. Garibaldi recognizes the man with the scared face as Boggs, a psycho that he new from the Minbari War. Boggs demands that the station is put back in Earth's control and orders Sheridan to get rid of the Minbari influence – otherwise the two will be killed. They kill a Minbari guard as proof that their threat is a serious one.

Marcus suddenly runs out of the room. He joins a group of lurkers

having a card came Downbelow. He asks them for information on Delenn and Lennan's whereabouts, but they are unwilling to help. A fight breaks out and ends with Marcus knocking all of the men unconscious.

In the meantime Lennan is defending Delenn from the Nightwatch and is shot, luckily it is not fatal.

Downbelow Lennier finds Marcus waiting for the thugs to come to. He asks Marcus about his participation in the rebirth ceremony, it was the last task Delenn had asked him to take care of before she was taken hostage. Marcus asks him if that is all he can think about at this

moment. Lennier replies that he is concerned about Delenn's well being and that he needs to tell him something that he has never told anyone before, as part of the rebirth ritual. He confides to Marcus that he loves Delenn. He explains that it is not a romantic love, but is purer and higher. He vows to stay at her side for as long as he lives.

A thug comes to and gives Marcus part of the information he needs. The thug overhead Nightwatch members mention level 14. Garibaldi meanwhile has traced a background noise from the transmission that was recorded of Boggs as that of the fusion reactors in the Grey sector. Grey 14 would be too hard to get into, they need a plan.

Boggs is informed that Sheridan plans to surrender and the Minbari warships are getting ready to jump from the area. He sends out a message to have Earth send marines in, they should be there within the hour.

An explosion goes off down the hall. The Nightwatch finds out that there is a leak in a fusion reactor and run out from their hiding place. As they are moving their hostages security ambushes them. In the confusion Delenn takes a knife in her back, which was intended for Sheridan. Sheridan chases after the Nightwatch member who threw the knife and catches up to him. "No more, no more of you! No more Nightwatch, no more hostages, no more lies! Not on my station, not on my watch – no more!!!" he yells at him as he knocks him out with one final blow.

The time to have the rebirth ceremony has almost past. Delenn, recovering in Medlab, is in no condition to attend the Nafak'cha.

Garibaldi is working with technicians to have the artificial personality purged from the system, which is infecting the station, by midnight.

As Lennier is watching over Delenn in Medlab Sheridan walks in holding his folded up uniform. Since she can't come to the ceremony it will come to her. Sheridan confides to her that he cares for her. "I think it's time you knew that. I can no longer imagine my world without you in it," he confesses.

Garibaldi next walks in, also carrying his uniform, and confesses, "No one knows, but, I'm afraid all the time, of what I might do if I ever let go."

Ivanova enters with her uniform. "I think I loved Talia," she says.

Franklin follows her and says, "I think I have a problem."

Lennier tells them that Delenn has gifts waiting for them in their quarters.

They appear at C&C, one by one, dressed in new black uniforms which display a shoulder patch of a Minbari entwined with a Human on one arm, and a patch bearing a new Babylon 5 insignia on the other.

Written by J. Michael Straczynski, produced by John Copeland, directed by John C. Flinn III, edited by Skip Robinson, with John C. Flinn III as Director of Photography. Starring: William Forward – Lord Refa, Don Stroud – Boggs, Paul Perri – Sniper, Kim Strauss – Lennan, Vincent Bilancio – Maintenance Man, Harlan Ellison – Sparky the Computer, Ed Wasser – Morden, Jim Cody Williams – Thug #1, Doug McCoy – Guard. 



Delenn is wounded in a skirmish with members of the Nightwatch that are hiding on B5.

The Centaurian Sentinel is grateful to John Copeland, J. Michael Straczynski, and Doug Netter for inviting us back to the sets of *BABYLON 5* this month. Also thanks to everyone who spent time with us – especially Jeffrey Willerth and Jim Lockett. In the next few issues we will be sharing with you the experiences we had with the cast and crew. During our visit filming for episodes #415, "No Surrender, No Retreat", and #416, "The Exercise of Vital Powers", was taking place. If you think that B5 is slowing down after the Shadow war, you have another think coming!

During our visit we also had the opportunity to talk to Jason Brezinski, of Jasmine Productions, about the *BABYLON 5* encyclopedia that is currently in production. The interactive CD-ROM will not deal with individual episodes specifically, but will be a general guide for someone visiting Babylon 5. It will include declassified information, translations to alien text (i.e. *The Book of G'Quon*), and text on governments. Christopher Franke will be writing a score for it. In addition JMS mentioned to us that it will have a really neat image on the package. The program's design took four months and should be available in November. Macintosh users need not fear – this one will be on a hybrid CD-ROM.

B5 fans are constantly asking "What more can we do to support *BABYLON 5*?" In addition to letting the program director of your local station know how much you enjoy the great series you should also contact the companies that advertise during the show. In many cases the sponsor may change from week to week, and by letting them know how you feel about their decision to advertise during *BABYLON 5* it may convince them to advertise again during the show's time slot.

Now that *BABYLON 5* has been picked up by Turner Network Television for reruns let them know that you are thrilled about their decision to show the series. For once viewers in the US will be guaranteed to have one place and one time when they can view B5. TNT is just as excited about this decision and will be doing major promotions for the series. One of their ideas is to have a toll free number for fans to call and get answers to questions they may have about episodes. Tell TNT that you are looking forward to seeing *BABYLON 5* on their network. The people to contact at TNT are Lisa Mateas, Senior Vice President of Programming, and Phil Oppenheim, Vice President of Programming, at:

Turner Network Television
One CNN Center, Box 105366
Atlanta, GA 30348

Their e-mail addresses are lisa.mateas@turner.com and phil.oppenheim@turner.com.

The A-Z of Babylon 5, by David Bassom and *Babylon 5 #7: The Shadow Within*, by Jeanne Cavelos should be available in the US in by the time you read this. The US version of *The A-Z of Babylon 5* is a bit smaller in size than the UK version and does not contain color photos. Otherwise, with the exception of some edits, the content is the same. Both are from Dell.

A special packaging of B5 videotapes are available at rental stores in the UK. The first season episodes are available on six tapes, with four episodes per tape. The first tape, which includes "The Gathering", "Midnight on the Firing Line", and "Soul Hunter", also has a bonus of "The Making of Babylon 5" (previously aired in the US and hosted by Walter Koenig).

The latest regular release of the UK B5 videotapes is volume 18, which includes "There All the Honor Lies", and "Knives".

Episode #415, as well as the title for season four, is titled "No Surrender, No Retreat".

Mykl

GOLD CHANNEL

Mira Furlan enjoyed a tremendous reception at the Creation Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Sunday, Feb 2, 1997. Please, let's all write and thank them for inviting Mira, and ask her to have her back again as often as they can!

On June 21-22 Creation has convention on the schedule in White Plains, New York, just outside of New York City. Since Mira loves NYC so much, we should write to Creation and ask her to be added to the guest list! So far no guests have been listed for this con, but they do list B5 as one of the themes.

Creation's address is: Creation Entertainment, 411 North Central Avenue, Suite 300, Glendale CA 91203; (818)409-0960

Jackie Ross, jackieross@juno.com

I wanted to say what a fine job you and your associates are doing. I know that you do this in your spare time as there is surely no money in *BABYLON 5*. The love you have for the show comes through clearly and you bring information that many of us – or at least me – could get nowhere else. Happy viewing!

Michael Guenther, Cologne, NJ

Editor's reply: Thanks for the compliments on *The Centaurian Sentinel*. We are dedicated to bringing the latest news about *BABYLON 5* to fans that are not online in addition to those who are. We value your input on the newsletter. A couple of suggestions that we will be including in future issues are actor/character profiles, and a summary of episode to date.

EPISODE AIR SCHEDULE For United States: (R=repeat)

Week Of	Prod. #	Title
2/24	409	Atonement
3/03	319R	Grey 17 Is Missing
3/10	318R	Walkabout
3/17	405R	The Long Night
3/24	406R	Into the Fire
3/31	407R	Epiphanies
4/07	408R	The Illusion of Truth
4/14	409R	Atonement
4/21*	410	Racing Mars
4/28*	411	Lines of Communication
5/05*	412	Conflicts of Interests
5/12*	413	Rumors, Bargains and Lies
5/19*	414	Moments of Transition
5/26*	415	No Surrender, No Retreat
?/??	416	The Exercise of Vital Powers

*tentative dates



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B5 FANS WANTED

NYC B-FIVER FAN Would like to get together with fellow area fans for viewing, discussions, and fun! Julia LeGath, 277 West 20th Street, #4A, NYC, NY 10011, or e-mail at: paganess@hotmail.com.